



— State of —  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*  
**John Hoeven**  
*Governor*

**PROCLAMATION**  
**NORTH DAKOTA EMERGENCY**  
**AUGUST 8, 2003 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**WHEREAS**, the potential for a rural fire danger emergency exists in areas of western North Dakota based on information received from the National Weather Service and federal, state, tribal and local emergency management, fire, and forest service officials; and

**WHEREAS**, this information indicates an increased fire danger due to adverse weather conditions, and heavy vegetation with varying degrees of dryness, which presents a high potential for catastrophic fires; and

**WHEREAS**, issuance of Rangeland (rural) Fire Danger Index statements of "VERY HIGH" and/or "EXTREME" by the National Weather Service will automatically implement mitigation procedures found in the Rural Fire Danger Index Guide of the North Dakota Emergency Operations Plan to reduce damage to property and the possible loss of life; and

**WHEREAS**, federal and tribal organizations have also issued actions restricting and prohibiting activities; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the provisions of the North Dakota Disaster Act of 1985 (Chapter 37-17.1, North Dakota Century Code) and this proclamation, or renewals thereof, executive orders, other proclamations, and regulations which will be issued to implement this proclamation to meet the dangers inherent by the rural fire condition, shall have the force and effect of law; and

**NOW, THEREFORE** I proclaim a "fire danger emergency" for the following counties: Adams, Billings, Bowman, Burleigh, Dunn, Emmons, Grant, Golden Valley, Hettinger, Mercer, McKenzie, Morton, Oliver, Sioux, Slope, Stark and Williams. Additionally, I order the Director of the Division of Emergency Management and the State Forester to implement all necessary operational procedures based on fire danger statements of the National Weather Service until the discontinuation of the Rangeland (rural) Fire Danger Index for 2003. This proclamation shall be cited as the North Dakota Emergency Proclamation of August 8, 2003.

/s/  
John Hoeven  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:  
/s/  
Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State  
/s/  
Cory Fong  
Deputy